

## The Fearless Spectator

By

Charles McCabe, Esquire



Early last month a leader in the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People sent the following brusque letter to Mr. Willie Mays, the man the San Francisco Giants insist is the world's greatest ball player.

"Dear Willie: Some of us are wondering whether your batting slump might not be due to concern over the events occurring in Birmingham and the fact that you not only have failed to make a financial contribution to the fight being waged in your home town, but have neglected to even issue a statement in support."

Whether this unfriendly little missive from one Negro leader to another ever got into Willie's hands (it was addressed to Candlestick Park) or what Willie thought of it, and how he answered it (if he did) I do not know.

But it pointedly brings up the situation of the Negro professional athlete in the current fight of his fellow Negroes to achieve rights which were voted them a century ago.

If he saw the letter Willie must have cringed a little—that Fate should have placed him in a position to receive it, and that there was so little, really, that he could do about it.

Willie's thinking on the race question—if that's what it can be termed—was explored in a recent issue of the Saturday Evening Post.

In brief, Willie's view is that he can best help the race struggle of the Negro by being nice to the white man and nice to the Negro, and any and all shades in between.

"In San Francisco," Willie says, "I go anywhere I want to go. My face is so well-known that people recognize me.

"If I carry myself in a nice way, the next guy is accepted easily. I mean the next Negro guy, just walking in off the street. If I'm rowdy it will be bad. So I just go in and have fun."

Willie makes it plain that he is a "moderate." He thinks grey. Which some people, like the NAACP man, would call a do-nothing, or even Uncle Tom, attitude.

Willie is a prisoner of his situation. He gets over a hundred grand annually, it is said, to play baseball. Actually, Willie knows why he gets his huge salary.

At 32, he can say baseball "is a sport and a business both . . . If you know your body isn't responding as well, you got to look at yourself as a businessman."

This sophistication cannot have come easily to Willie, who is not paid to be an intellectual. He must also recognize its painful corollary: if he's going to be the highest paid man in baseball, he had better let the white man do his thinking for him. Especially on the sensitive race question.

The public relations machinery of the Giants is uncommonly competent. Sometimes I think everyone in the front office, possibly excluding Squire Stoneham, is a PR man, whether he's paid to be or not.

And the thing the Giant PR agents know, above all the other realities of life, is that a black man's dollar is just the same color as a white man's dollar. A lovely, cool green.

The Giants are for peaceful and quiet race relations for the same reason the Kennedy Administration is, or the Ike Administration was: Their very life depends on it.

If either Negroes or whites start staying away from the ball park because of anything a Negro or white ball player might say on the racial question, that would pain Squire Stoneham—and his pocketbook—quite badly.

So I think it's fair to guess that Willie's public position on recent—and perhaps future demonstrations in his home town of Birmingham is unchanged from that outlined in the angry "Dear Willie" letter from the NAACP man.

But I'd rather not ask Willie about it. And, I'm sure, neither would you.

# Torrance Continues Drive For Second Round Crown

Rambling toward a possible West Coast Slo-Pitch League second round championship, the Tappa Keggas pulled two clutch wins out of the bag on Friday, handing a rugged El Segundo club a pair of narrow defeats.

With only four games remaining, the Tappa Keggas now boast a 7-1 record while Gardena is right there at 5-1. Gardena drew a bye on Friday and has six contests remaining to be played.

Both Gardena and Torrance are bidding for the second round title and a chance to meet first-round champion Los Angeles in a five-game playoff for the entire bag of marbles.

**TORRANCE WILL** put its power to a real test next Friday when it travels to Los Angeles for a two-game series with the Old Timers, who are still in the running for the second half crown.

The Keggas will have real revenge on their minds. In the initial round, the Old Timers handed the Kegs their first defeat on a Torrance diamond in three years.

**IT WAS ONLY** the second defeat ever in a Torrance park for the Tappa Keggas. So far this year, the Kegs boast a 9-1 record at home but have managed only a 6-4 mark on the road.

Against El Segundo the past

weekend, the Kegs took a 1-0 triumph in the opener, finally breaking a scoreless ball game in the fifth inning to take the win.

**SCOTTIE MAXIE** broke a 30-hit slump to single Mick Ryan across from second base and give Ryan his first of two mound victories for the evening.

The Kegs bashed five hits while El Segundo collected six safeties. The proud Torrance defense collapsed for two errors while the losers held steady.

**IN THE** second encounter, great fielding pulled out a 4-2

win for Torrance. Two double plays were enough to discourage the pesky 'Gundo crew.

Shortstop Gib Matthews started one double play for Torrance in the fifth inning that broke El Segundo's heart and almost turned in a triple play.

With the Kegs playing errorless ball, and Jim Reynolds and Matthews defending superbly, Ryan was able to earn his second win of the night although the Kegs were out-hit by a 10-9 margin.

Chuck Schoendienst slammed three hits in our trips to the dish for Torrance and was the only Tappa Kegga to connect safely more than once.

## Van Deene Cindermen In Repeat

Van Deene Avenue Elementary School rang up over twice as many points as its nearest competitor Tuesday to capture the Los Angeles City Board of Education Youth Services District Track Meet for the second straight year.

Van Deene totaled 56 points to easily outdistance second-place 186th Street School who was 34 points behind. The second place school hosted the annual meet.

Results were so one-sided that Van Deene's summer track team made a complete sweep of all events except for two second place ribbons.

**IN THE 40-YARD** dash for fourth grade boys, Steve Butterfield walked off with a first place as did Diane Kaneshige in the same event for fourth grade girls.

Gail Kaneshige, Diane's sister, ran off with first place laurels in the 40-yard dash for fifth grade girls. Steve Coles earned top honors in the 50-yard dash for fifth grade boys.

**THE 40-YARD** dash for sixth grade girls was won by Linda Bray while sixth-grader Mike McGough took a second in the 50-yard sprint.

When the relay events came around, it was the same story as the Van Deene girls, led by the Kaneshige sisters and Linda Bray, picked every first place available.

**THE BOY'S** relay team managed two first place berths and a second place finish. Larry Butterfield anchored the over-under relay squad to win while Bobby Seal sparked the over-head team to a first and the round-the-post relay outfit to a second.

## Three Anglers Return Happy

Three local anglers returned from a Baja, California trip with good-size fish tales to relate.

James Marin of Torrance landed 150- and 120-pound marlin, a 120-pound sailfish and a dolphin while M. W. Saepard Jr. reeled in 140- and 125-pound marlin, and Glenn Wilson caught a 200-pound marlin.



**SAFETY'S SAKE . . .** Lifesaving techniques are demonstrated to El Camino College swimmers by student instructor Tom Frame, who describes the use of the life preserver ring. Registration for two-week instructional periods starting July 29 and August 12 will be held in the Campus Center at 8 a.m. July 27. Schedules are available in the registration office.

## Tordondo Champs Deadlock In Four-Hour Playoff Contest

Two Tordondo Little League teams, battling for the circuit championship, are either tremendously well balanced or reluctantly end the regulation season.

The Tigers and Braves met the past week to decide the crown, but 14 innings and four hours later the count was knotted at 3-3 and matters were still up in the air.

As things turned out, the Tigers latched on to the first half championship and the Braves picked up the second-round crown, forcing a playoff.

**BRUCE MacEachern** started for the Tigers and gave way after six stanzas to Don Cow-

den. When Cowden allowed two walks with none out in the 12th frame, Tiger manager Boyd Good brought in Greg Keister who put out the fire and held the Braves scoreless the rest of the route.

Frank Williams lasted the full 14 innings behind the plate for the Tigers.

**THE BRAVES** went with Gary Hulse for the first six innings, used the services of Tony Kelich for the next six stanzas and finished with Jerome Kurtik.

Tom Middleton caught the first six innings then gave way to Gary Hulse for the Braves.

**BOTH** starting chuckers allowed three tallies in the first three frames, and after that each club was unable to put together a satisfying offensive attack.

In the first inning, the Tigers pushed over two runs when Cowden walked, Pete Martinez singled and Mac-

Eachern doubled for a pair of RBIs.

**BOUNCING** back in the bottom of the second, Middleton singled and Kelich doubled.

The Tigers increased their lead in the third as Cowden walked, reached third on passed balls, and came across with a clutch one-bagger. In the bottom of the third, Hulse doubled, Middleton walked, and Kelich bashed his second double to tie up the contest.

**DEFENSIVE** play featured the remainder of the game. In the 12th inning, Cowden missed a chance to score when he was thrown out attempting to steal home.

David Alden and Larry Bergeron walked for the Braves in the bottom of the 12th and Keister came in to pitch for the Tigers. Keister got Jerome Kurtik to ground out to Martinez, who threw out Alden at third.

# Pacific American Athletics Snare Title by Two Games

Finishing with a two-game spread over its nearest competitors, the Athletics today own the 1963 Pacific American Babe Ruth League championship.

The Athletics ended with a 14-6 mark to outdistance the Red Sox at 12-8. The Tigers and Yankees tied for third at 11-9 while the Orioles at 8-12 and the Indians at 4-16 trailed. One of the key contests of the season occurred last Sunday when the Yankees snared an 8-7 decision against the Tigers to assure the Athletics of the top spot.

**IT TOOK** 11 innings and three and one-half hours of baseball between the Yanks and the Tigers before the Athletics could begin their celebration.

Steve Parker was the big man in the clutch for the Yan-

kees, driving in a go-ahead tally in the top of the 11th inning, scoring the eventual winning run on an error, and then coming on to hurl the Yanks out of trouble in the last half of the inning.

**ED HOLMES** picked up the win as he went the first 10 innings, fanning 11 batters and walking eight. Parker fanned two men and walked two in the last stanza.

For the Tigers, Steve French went 6½ innings, fanned 10 and walked three as he picked up the loss. Greg Linnemeyer went the rest of the route for the losers and struck out seven while issuing two free passes.

**IN ADDITION** to Parker's clutch triple, the Yanks were aided offensively by Bruce Turner with two safeties and Don Hunt, who singled.

For the losers, Greg Linnemeyer and Jeff Wang reached base twice via the hit route while Gary Mall, Steve Hertzog, Marty Harris, and Fench each connected safely.

**THE CHAMPION** Athletics wound up with four players on the 15-year-old All-Star team. Jim McPherson, Craig Moore, Mike Potchka and Larry Tyner will represent the new titleholders.

Three players, Clyde Ford, Brian Grady and Dale Reis, were selected from the second place Red Sox. From the Tigers, Steve French, Steve Hertzog and Greg Linnemeyer will play for the All-Stars.

**YANKES** selected included Pat Adkins, Ed Holmes and Steve Parker. John Englehardt of the Orioles and Jeff Lewin of the Indians round out the club.

The Pacific American All-Stars will play their first contest against the Torrance Babe Ruth League representative on Sunday, July 21, at 4 p.m. at the Plaza Del Amo Field. The 13-year-old All-Star contest will be played between the two leagues on the same day at 1 p.m.

**ALTERNATES** for Pacific American include Emil Derdowski, Ron Driesler, and Dennis Jones from the Orioles; Gary Mull of the Tigers, and John Wallace of the Indians.

Maurice Tyner will serve as manager with Jack French shouldering the coaching duties.

Only Gary Holtzhausen and Bob Lane were picked for the 13-year-old All-Star team from the Athletics. The Red Sox landed Bruce Douglas, Brian John and Dave Ptak.

## Phillies Surprise National League

Everything is suddenly coming up roses for the Torrance National Little League Phillies.

Although they are not in first place, the Phils picked up three big wins recently, including a decision over the league-leading Giants, to move just one game off the pace.

The Giants own the top spot in the Minor League standings with a 13-5 record, but the fast-closing Phillies are now 11-6. Trailing are the Cubs, 11-8; the Yankees, 10-7; the Braves, 9-9; the Angels, 8-11; the Dodgers, 6-12; and the Cardinals, 4-14.

**IN THE MOST** important game of the week, the Phillies were paced by hurler-hitter Kim Kopatz in an 11-6 win over the Giants. Kopatz went the full route on the mound, allowing only three hits while fanning 10 and walking seven.

Kopatz was also big with a bat, driving in two runs. Joe Acosta also collected two RBIs while Larry Hoover and Mike McGovern were responsible for one run each.

**ALTHOUGH IT** took three pitchers to turn the trick, the Angels blasted to an 11-5 duke over the Cardinals in a walk-marred contest. Mike Saraceni, Ron Lind and Al Livesay got together on a one-hitter whiffing eight batters but issuing 10 free passes.

Dough Holder absorbed the loss as he was touched for 12 hits and 11 walks. Holder struck out six.

**AGAINST THE** Angels, it was again Kopatz on the hill as he survived a wild mound war with Dave Maxwell to pace the Phils in a 7-4 triumph. Kopatz gave up three hits and walked seven.

Maxwell was touched for only one hit and sent 12 men down swinging, but 15 Phillies reached first base because of walks. Joe Acosta for the Phils and Mike Saraceni for the Angels were the big bat stars.

**JOHN ROZHON** threw a two-hitter against the Cardinals as the Giants picked up a 7-4 win. Rozhon fanned five and walked seven. He also teamed with Dave Pack to collect RBIs.

A top mound effort by Kelly Huston was enough for the Phillies in a 6-3 win over the Yankees. Huston allowed only four hits to edge Yank chucker Dennis Kallenberger. Yankee John Bales and Phillie Lynn Dodson drove runs across.

The Braves, behind the fourth-hitting of Barton LeBon, managed a 10-5 win over the Angels. The results were different against the Dodgers as the Braves topped, 16-9.

Dave Reid and Steve Dexter hurled the win as Reid, Gene Leal, Dexter, and Jim Cunningham drove in runs. John Schoendo hit a fifth-inning home run with one man on for the Braves and Don Beck added another RBI.

**THE CUBS** collected two wins, whipping the Angels, 16-8, and taking a 17-2 decision from the Dodgers. Jerry Pagel earned the triumph in the Cub-Angel fray while Pat Shock, Coy Hall and Pagel drove in runs.

## Fish Reef Now Open Off Beach

A \$5,500 artificial reef off Redondo Beach, installed last January by the Department of Fish and Game, has been marked with two orange-and-white cylindrical buoys and is now available to sport fishermen, the DFG announced this week.

Designed to improve ocean fishing for Southland anglers, the reef had remained unmarked for nearly six months to allow fish populations to build up.

The quarry rock structure, financed with Los Angeles County fish and game fine money, is the first artificial reef to be built essentially for sport fishermen.

**IT LIES ABOUT** 2,000 yards offshore from Redondo Beach pier and consists of 1,000 tons of quarry rock in four separate piles about 100 feet apart. The rocks were set on a flat and hitherto relatively barren bottom.

The two buoys, each 12 inches in diameter, are about 700 feet apart and mark the outer extremities on the reef, which runs north and south. The words "artificial fishing reef" are printed on each buoy.

**DFG DIVER**-biologists Charles H. Turner and Earl Ebert, who selected the site and supervised the installation, report that fish by the thousands have been attracted to the reef and have adopted it as their new home.

Large kelp bass and sand bass, running from two to four pounds and halibut weighing about 20 to 30 pounds have been observed at the reef, in addition to rockfish, sculpin, sheephead, perches and ocean whitefish.

## Pop Warner League Plans Early Signups

Early registration for the Torrance Pop Warner Football Assn. will be held on Tuesday, July 16, at Torrance Park, on July 17 at Walteria Park, and on July 18 at McMaster Park.

Pop Warner president Jack Jasper announced that the registration would be open at the local parks from 7:30 p.m. until 9 p.m.

Jasper said that early registration would help decide whether additional teams would be formed.

## Youthful Hunters Require Training

California's hunting season opens in less than a month, and the Department of Fish and Game today reminded parents and youngsters that junior sportsmen under 16 years of age may apply for and receive a hunting license only if they present a certificate of completion of a state-approved Hunter Safety training course.

The DFG noted that a great many persons in the past have overlooked this law, which has been in effect for several years.

As a result, many young applicants have been turned away and forced to wait until they could complete a Hunter Safety course, get their certificate and re-apply for the license.

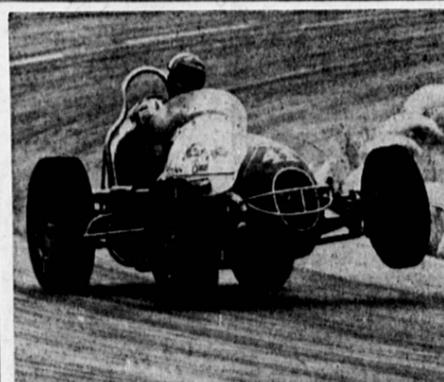
**WITH OVER** 500 instructors in the Los Angeles area alone, the department says the facili-

ties are there but anyone who wants to take the course should register right away, before the hunting season begins.

The names of local Hunter Safety instructors or area coordinators may be obtained from any DFG office or warden, or any of the 1,200 hunting license agents in Southern California and the Inyo-Mono area.

**ORDINARILY**, the course takes eight or nine hours to complete, with classes held one or two nights per week. Instructors are state-certified volunteers who serve without pay.

Over 250,000 junior hunters in California have successfully completed the course since the start of the Hunter Safety training program in 1954.



**BIG MAN . . .** Huge Ray Douglas, a 275-pound racing veteran, will be one of the pre-race favorites for Wednesday night's California Racing Assn. big car race at Ascot Park. Douglas will pilot the car driven by A. J. Foyt to the 1961 national championship. The first race is scheduled for 8:30 p.m. with time trial set for 7 p.m.